

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOUREN 00494 210635Z

20

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-07 SWF-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /081 W

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R 201405Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2663

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0494

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ETRN, MZ

SUBJECT: LABOR PROBLEMS OF MOZAMBIQUE PORTS

REF: STATE 131443 (NOTAL); LOURENCO MARQUES 490 (NOTAL)

1. CAPTAIN OF LOURENCO MARQUES PORT REPORTS THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN POSITION OF TUGBOAT WORKERS. INSTEAD OF WORKING 24 HOURS PER DAY IN SHIFTS, SEVEN DAYS PER WEEK, WORKERS ONLY WORK WEEKDAYS 7-11 AM AND 1-5 PM AND ON SATURDAY 7-11 AM. THEY ARE NOW THREATENING COMPLETE STRIKE UNLESS PAID OVERTIME. CAPTAIN SAYS PORT HAS NO FUNDS TO PAY OVERTIME AND UNWILLING TO PREDICT WHAT WILL HAPPEN. TUGBOAT WORKERS IN BEIRA PORT REPORTEDLY ADOPTING SAME POSITION.

2. IN LOURENCO MARQUES PORT, WAITING TIME NOW AVERAGING

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AROUND 8 DAYS. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 29 SHIPS WAITING TO

OFFLOAD CARGO OUTSIDE HARBOR. SHIPPING SOURCES STATE STEVE-DORES STILL REFUSING TO WORK ON WEEKENDS AND NO SETTLEMENT LIKELY UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

3. IN BEIRA PORT, WAITING TIME HAS BEEN AVERAGING 6 DAYS BUT WILL INCREASE NOW THAT PORT TOTALLY PARALYZED BY STEVE-DORE STRIKE. THERE ARE CURRENTLY 18 SHIPS WAITING TO OFF-LOAD CARGO. GOVERNMENT ARBITRATION BOARD WILL CONSIDER STEVEDORE LABOR DEMANDS BUT NO SETTLEMENT EXPECTED FOR AT LEAST THREE DAYS.

REED

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